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Reply to Office Action for 10/605,911

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Reply to Office Action for 10/605,911

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

David R. Hall, et al

Serial No.: 10/605,911

Filed: 11/5/2003

For: AN INTERNAL COAXIAL CABLE
ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR FOR
USE IN DOWNHOLE TOOLS§
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Art Group: 2833

Examiner: Hammond, B. R.

Docket No.: 66.0040

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DEC 15 2004

December 15, 2004

Honorable Director for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is timely submitted in response to the Patent and Trademark Office Action mailed November 30, 2004 for which the shortened-statutory period for response is set to expire December 30, 2004.

Restriction/Election Requirement

The office restricted the application to one of the following inventions for prosecution on the merits:

- I. Claims 1-14, drawn to a coaxial cable connector, classified in class 29, subclass 578.
- II. Claims 15-28, drawn to a down hole tool, classified in class 29, subclass 747.

Applicants elect claims 15-28 for prosecution on the merits, without traverse. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-14 be withdrawn - to the filing of a divisional application.

The office further required applicant to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits. should no generic claim be found allowable: species 1, Figs. 1-6; species 2, Figs. 7 and 8; and Species 3, Figs. 9-12.

Applicants traverse this restriction to particular species, as the requirements for claims to be restricted to particular species as defined in the MPEP 806.04(d, e, and f) do not appear to be met. Furthermore there are at most only two embodiments of the present invention shown, described and claimed the application. These two embodiments are specifically embodiment A, as shown in Figs. 1-8; and embodiment B as shown in Figs. 9-12,

All the elements identified in figures 7 and 8 (Examiner's species 2) are shown in Figures 1-6, and/or are described in the specification as being portions of elements shown in Figs 1-6. The elements referred to by numerals 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 70, 80, 83 are all shown in Figs. 1-6 and are integral with the structure shown and described in these figures. The remaining numerals 71, 72 and 75 are described in paragraph 48 of the specification as being components on the inductive coil 70 as shown in figure 2 and paragraph 37. As described in paragraphs 47-49 of the specification, figures 7 and 8 are merely different views of the invention as shown in figures 1-6. Therefore, Figures 1-8 can only be defined as a single embodiment of the invention.

The remaining figures 9-12 are drawn to a second embodiment of the invention.

Should the Examiner maintain the election to a particular species, claims 15-20, and 24-28 are drawn to both embodiments and therefore may be considered "generic", and claims 21-23 are drawn to the embodiment "B" as shown in Figs. 9-12.

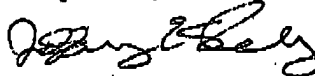
The remainder of this discussion will focus on the reasons for traversing the election of species.

Although two embodiments are shown in the application, specifically embodiment A, in Figs. 1-8, and embodiment B as shown in Figs. 9-12, these embodiments are not mutually exclusive as required in MPEP 806.04(f) for election of species. When comparing Fig. 5 to Fig. 9 and Fig. 7

to Fig. 12, it is clear that with the exceptions of the "protuberance" (numeral 44) and the "flat sidewall" (numeral 50), each major element of embodiment A has an equivalent in embodiment B. It is possible to add the two elements identified above to embodiment A without excluding any others, as is clearly evident in Figure 12. Since the two embodiments are NOT mutually exclusive, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the requirement to elect among species.

It is believed that there are no fees due at this time. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 180584. If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at 281-878-5658.

Respectfully submitted,



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